[*Translation*]

T.V. Coverage in Orissa

*775 SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the coverage of T.V. in Orissa for the benefit of all the viewers in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a)to (c). With the commissioning of the High Power (10 KW) TV transmitter at Bhawanipatna, since made technically ready, the population coverage in the State shall stand increased from the existing about 65% to 77%(including population in the fringe of the service range of the transmitter network). Plans have also been made to setup a LPT at Puri. Further improvement of TV service in the State depends upon availability of resources.

[*English*]

Doordarshan Centres in Karnataka

*779 SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Doordarshan centres and relay centres functioning in Karnataka indicating the capacity and location of each centre;

(b) the population benefited thereby:

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a new powerful telecasting centre in Karnataka in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent of population likely to be covered thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Besides the full-fledged TV studio Center and the high power (10 KW) TV transmitter at Bangalore, a high power (1KW) TV transmitter at Gulbarga and 26 low power (100 W) TV transmitters one each a Athani, Bidar, Belgaum, Bantwal, Bellary, Bhadrawati, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Chikmagalur, Chikodi,Dharwad, Devengere, Gadag-Betagiri, Hassan, Hospet, Kolar Gold Field, Karwar, Madikeri, Mangalore, Mysore, Ranibennur, Raichur, Sandur, Sirsi, Tiptur and Udipi are, at present, functioning in Karnataka.

(b) The existing TV transmitters functioning in the State provide TV service to about 57% population of Karnataka (inclusive of the population in fringe areas where elevated antennae and boosters are required for obtaining satisfactory reception)

(c) and (d)Whereas a programme Generation Facility (PGF)Centre at Gulbarga is technically ready, two high power (10 KW) TV transmitters, one at Dharwad in replacement of existing low power (100 W) transmitter and the other at Shimoga, are under implementation in Karnataka. Besides, it has been planned to set up two new low power TV transmitters, one each at Mandhya and Gangavati in the State. On commissioning of these transmitters, the population coverage in the State shall stand increased from the existing about 57% to about 68% (including the population living in the fringe of the service range of the transmitters).

Population below Poverty Line in Tamil Nadu

*781. SHRI R. DHANUSKODI ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of popula-